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General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 64
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 9 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and further to my letter dated 8 February 2001, I have the honour to draw your attention to new massive violations of the flight information region (FIR) of Nicosia and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by military aircraft of the Turkish Air Force, recorded on 31 January, 1, 5, 7, 11, 16, 19, 20, 21, 24 and 25 February and 1, 13, 16, 19, 22, 24, 28 March 2001.

On 31 January and 1 February, two CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on 1 February to the FIR of Ankara.

On 5 February, two F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia, Mesaoria and Famagusta, before returning to the FIR of Ankara. On the same day, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 7 February, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas), before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-160 aircraft returned later on the same day and entered once again the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 11 February, 10 F-16, one C-160, one C-130 and two CN-235 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

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(a) Ten F-16 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, before exiting towards a southeastern direction;

(b) One C-160, one C-130 and one CN-235 military aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The aircraft returned afterwards from the same direction;

(c) One CN-235 violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) and patrolling in a search-and-rescue mission before exiting.

On 16 February, 10 F-16, two CN-235, one C-130 and one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) Ten F-16 military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara;

(b) One C-160, one C-130 and one CN-235 military aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the areas of Karpasia before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The aircraft returned afterwards from the same direction;

(c) One CN-235 aircraft violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) and patrolling in a search-and-rescue mission before exiting.

On 19 February, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 20 February, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards the FIR of Ankara.

On 21 February, one C-650 and one C-130 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-130 aircraft returned from the same direction, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 24 and 25 February, one GLF-4 and one C-650 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, as follows:

(a) The GLF-4 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before exiting towards a southern direction. The aircraft returned afterwards from the same direction;

(b) The C-650 military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 1 March, one C-160 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-130 aircraft coming afterwards from the same direction, violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 13 March, one C-650 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction.

On 16 March, one C-650 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 19 March, one B-200 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Mesaoria, before landing at the illegal airport of Tymbou in the occupied area of the Republic. The aircraft returned on the same day to the FIR of Ankara.

On 22 March, one F-4 Turkish military aircraft, coming from a southeastern direction, entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (cape of Apostolos Andreas) before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On the same day, four F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On 24 March, one C-130 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia (Cape of Apostolos Andreas) before exiting towards a southeastern direction. The C-130 returned from the same direction, violating the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus, flying over the area of Karpasia before returning to the FIR of Ankara.

On 28 March, 18 F-16 Turkish military aircraft entered the Nicosia FIR, violating international air traffic regulations before taking part in the military manoeuvres code-named "Cevik Pence" and returning afterwards to the FIR of Ankara.

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Cyprus, I strongly protest the above actions, which violate international law, as well as the Security Council resolutions on Cyprus, and call for their cessation. I would like to note that these violations are taking place at a time when the international community expects the Turkish side to reverse its decision not to attend the next round of negotiations under

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 10 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government and further to my previous letters on the same subject, I have the honour to convey to you hereunder a list of the violations and infringements that were committed by Israel against Lebanon in the period from 19 March to 8 April 2001. Lebanon regards these incidents as an extension of Israel's aggression against its people and territory.

19 March 2001

At 1325 hours hostile aircraft overflew the Bayt al-Din area at low altitudes and were engaged by anti-aircraft units of the Lebanese Army. They withdrew at 1340 hours.

20 March 2001

At 0100 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the zone of the Tibnin detachment at moderate altitudes.

At 1030 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Nabatiyah area at moderate altitudes and overflew the zone of the Jba' detachment at low altitudes.

27 March 2001

At 1130 hours and again at 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the zone of the Jba' detachment at low altitudes.

At 1200 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the zones of the Qulaylah and Tibnin detachments at moderate altitudes.

30 March 2001

Between 1345 and 1400 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Tyre area at very high altitudes, breaking the sound barrier.

01-33080 (E) 120401 160401

31 March 2001

At intervals between 0855 and 1000 hours Israeli forces at the Mazra'at Fashkul and Ramta hill outposts in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire towards the outskirts of Majidiyah in the liberated areas and at areas around the outposts themselves.

1 April 2001

At 0105 hours and between 0615 and 0645 hours Israeli forces strafed the area around their outpost at Ramta hill in the occupied Shab'a farmlands with medium-machine-gun fire.

Between 1510 and 1615 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 2000 and 2100 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

2 April 2001

Between 1030 and 1400 hours Israeli enemy forces were engaged in blasting rocks and in earthmoving work in an area to the south-west of their Ramta hill outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands. Two Israeli helicopters also flew over the farmlands before leaving in the direction of the occupied territories.

Between 1845 and 1900 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Mazra'at Fashkul outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at surrounding areas. Between 1850 and 2005 hours two Israeli enemy helicopters flew over the farmlands.

Between 2155 and 2205 hours an Israeli enemy forces patrol fired several bursts of light and medium automatic-weapons fire at both sides of the road leading from the Radar outpost to Birkat al-Sawwanah in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

3 April 2001

Between 1015 and 1020 hours Israeli enemy forces at the Summaqah hill outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-weapons fire at surrounding areas.

Between 1025 and 1040 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Shab'a farmlands at very high altitudes.

Between 1550 and 1700 hours three Israeli helicopters flew over the Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1655 and 1730 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the Naqurah area at very high altitudes.

4 April 2001

Between 1530 and 1700 hours Israeli warplanes overflew the South and Mount Lebanon at very high altitudes.

Between 1935 and 2010 hours two Israeli helicopters flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands before leaving in the direction of the occupied Palestinian territories.

5 April 2001

Between 0550 and 0605 hours Israeli forces at the Ramta hill outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at surrounding areas.

Between 1100 and 1900 hours an Israeli reconnaissance aircraft flew over the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

7 April 2001

Between 1200 and 1900 hours an Israeli Poclain excavator was engaged in fortification work in the area around the outpost at Ruwaysat al-Alam in the occupied Shab'a farmlands. The situation was kept under observation.

8 April 2001

Between 1230 and 1645 hours an Israeli Poclain-type bulldozer was engaged in earthmoving and fortification work and a metal fence was erected around the outpost at Ruwaysat al-Alam in the occupied Shab'a farmlands.

Between 1700 and 1730 hours Israeli forces at the Fashkul outpost in the occupied Shab'a farmlands directed a number of bursts of medium-machine-gun fire at surrounding areas.

Like the previous Israeli violations of which it represents a continuation, this latest series is in flagrant violation of Security Council resolution 425 (1978) and of Lebanon's sovereignty and poses a threat to stability in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Question of Cyprus

Human rights questions

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 10 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to my letter of 28 December 2000 (A/55/720-S/2000/1253), I have the honour to enclose herewith the text of the European Parliament resolution on the abduction of Mr. Tsiakourmas in Cyprus, entitled "Human rights: Kidnapping of Mr. Tsiakourmas in Cyprus", adopted on 5 April 2001 (see annex).

The resolution condemns the abduction and subsequent arrest of Mr. Tsiakourmas, with the apparent support of the Turkish occupation forces, and urges the Government of Turkey to make all efforts so that its subordinate local administration in the occupied part of Cyprus release Mr. Tsiakourmas immediately, without any preconditions.

As you are aware, Mr. Tsiakourmas' illegal arrest took place within the British Sovereign Base Area on 13 December 2000, following written threats from the occupied areas to kidnap Greek Cypriots.

Upon instructions from my Government, I appeal once again to Your Excellency to use your influence and authority upon Turkey for the immediate release of Mr. Tsiakourmas. I also kindly request that you inform all relevant human rights mechanisms about this flagrant violation of international law.

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 64 and 114, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sotirios **Zackheos**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-32962 (E) 110401

Annex to the letter dated 10 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Human rights: Kidnapping of Mr. Tsiakourmas in Cyprus

European Parliament resolution on the abduction of Mr. Tsiakourmas in Cyprus

The European Parliament,

– *Having regard* to its previous resolutions on the situation in Cyprus, its resolution on Cyprus' application for membership of the European Union of 12 July 1995 and its resolutions on Turkey,

– *Having regard* to the declaration of the European Union-Turkey Joint Parliamentary Committee of 5 June 2000,

– *Having regard* to the United Nations resolutions on Cyprus,

A. *Recalling* that Mr. Panicos Tsiakourmas was abducted on 13 December 2000 from the territory of the sovereign British base of Dhekelia near Pyla in Cyprus and forcibly taken to the Turkish-occupied area, where he was handed over and arrested by the police and has remained in detention ever since,

B. *Whereas* the authorities of the sovereign British base have publicly affirmed that Mr. Tsiakourmas was violently and arbitrarily abducted from sovereign British territory,

C. *Whereas* there is every indication that drugs were planted on the person of Mr. Tsiakourmas after his abduction,

D. *Whereas*, although the allegations of possession of drugs against Mr. Tsiakourmas have not been proved, proceedings have commenced in the illegal courts in the area occupied by the Turkish army on trumped-up charges,

E. *Whereas* Mr. Tsiakourmas has chronic health problems and his health continues to deteriorate, according to United Nations and other doctors who have been examining him,

1. *Condemns* the abduction and subsequent arrest of Mr. Tsiakourmas by the Turkish Cypriots, with the apparent support of the Turkish occupation forces, which constitutes a flagrant violation of international law;

2. *Urges* the Government of Turkey to make all efforts to ensure that this case is brought to a positive conclusion; demands that the local administration in the occupied area of Cyprus release Mr. Tsiakourmas immediately, without any preconditions; urges that he be given adequate medical attention while still in detention;

3. *Calls upon* all parties concerned to continue to seek a peaceful solution to the Cyprus problem, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions and the efforts of the Secretary-General of the United Nations;

4. *Instructs* its President to forward this resolution to the Council, the Commission, the Governments of the member States, the Governments and Parliaments of Cyprus and Turkey and the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

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The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 4 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am writing with reference to yesterday's press briefings by your spokesman Fred Eckhard and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) regarding the understanding between you and the Pakistan Government for providing assistance to the Afghan refugees.

I wish to recall that during your meeting with the Chief Executive last month, it was agreed that the United Nations would follow a two-pronged approach to simultaneously provide assistance to the Afghan refugees who had freshly arrived in Pakistan as well as to the affected people inside Afghanistan. Pakistan committed itself to extend every assistance to the United Nations agencies in setting up the relief camps on the Afghan side of the border. This principle of simultaneity was meant to prevent a further exodus of Afghan refugees to Pakistan and to create conditions for the return of those who had sought refuge in Pakistan in the weeks immediately after the imposition of new sanctions by the Security Council against Afghanistan. We are disappointed that the United Nations has not been able to redeem its pledge in accordance with the principle of simultaneity, mutually agreed upon. The United Nations agencies have yet to take any step to establish camps and mobilize relief efforts inside Afghanistan to stop the further influx of Afghan refugees.

I am sure you will agree that Pakistan's record in looking after the Afghan refugees has been impeccable. For years, Pakistan has single-handedly shouldered the burden of Afghan refugees. We gave shelter to 4.5 million Afghan refugees during the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan. Pakistan, already faced with the burden of over 2 million Afghan refugees, however, cannot be expected to cope with the continued influx of refugees, particularly as international assistance dries up. Pakistan's capacity to receive a new influx of displaced persons and refugees is simply exhausted. The paucity of funds at the disposal of UNHCR to look after over 2 million Afghan refugees in Pakistan and hundreds and thousands of new arrivals is reflected in the meagre $2 million available at their disposal. This was even

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acknowledged by you. It is unfortunate that, in response to your appeal for the estimated $275 million needed for inside Afghanistan and the new arrivals, pledges of less than $45 million have been made so far.

Pakistan has kept the Jalozai camp open to UNHCR, humanitarian aid workers, bilateral aid donors and NGOs who have been providing relief assistance to refugees. However, we cannot accept UNHCR's intention to allow the registration of refugees at Jalozai without the provision of relief inside Afghanistan, as such registration would only induce Afghans to move in greater numbers to Pakistan. This is also contrary to the understanding reached during your visit to Pakistan.

The solution of the problem lies not in focusing on the Jalozai camp alone or in establishing new refugee camps in Pakistan, which would only attract more refugees, but in setting up camps on an emergency basis on the Afghan side of the border.

In forwarding this note, I wish to place on record the disappointment of the Government of Pakistan at the remarks of your Spokesman in his press briefing, blaming Pakistan. At the same time, I wish to reiterate our commitment to honour our obligations and continue our discussions with a view to finding a comprehensive solution to this humanitarian problem.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 46, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shamshad **Ahmad**

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The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 6 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

With reference to my letter dated 4 April 2001, I am forwarding herewith the comments of the Government of Pakistan with regard to the misgivings created due to some recent statements by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the spokesman of the Secretary-General on the handling of the Afghan refugees issue (see annex). I request that the present letter and its annex be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda 46, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Shamshad **Ahmad**

01-33068 (E) 120401

Annex to the letter dated 6 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Pakistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Comments of the Government of Pakistan on the Afghan refugee issue

A spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Islamabad made the following statement on 6 April 2001.

* * *

I will first give you the background about the understanding reached with the United Nations Secretary-General during his visit regarding assistance to the Afghans who have been provided shelter at Jalozai and other camps.

According to United Nations estimates, at least one million Afghans have been displaced by the worst drought in living memory and are in desperate need of relief assistance. Economic hardship had driven many of them towards Pakistan. Late last year, the exodus was accelerated because of the panic created by the sanctions. United Nations relief agencies and the Secretary-General are on record for having cautioned the Security Council concerning such a consequence. Another factor contributing to dislocation has been the conflict situation in Afghanistan.

During the closing months of last year, nearly 150,000 Afghans entered Pakistan. By now their numbers have exceeded 170,000. Over 70,000 of these new arrivals were accommodated in the new Shamshatoo and Akora camps. The remaining are crowded in Jalozai. Alarmed by the increasing influx and its inability to handle the new arrivals, the Pakistani authorities asked the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to stop further registration, which was proving to be a magnet for the drought-affected and economically displaced Afghans. We instead proposed that the United Nations open relief camps inside Afghanistan to help these economically displaced people. According to our survey in the Shamshatoo camp, 43 per cent are drought affected, 32 per cent are economic migrants and only 25 per cent come from areas which are affected by both drought and conflict. These figures clearly show the need for relief efforts inside Afghanistan.

During the Secretary-General's visit, the question of new Afghan arrivals came under discussion. Earlier, the issue was discussed when Under-Secretary-General Kenzo Oshima visited Pakistan in late February. During discussions with the Secretary-General, the Pakistan side explained that Pakistan's capacity to receive further flows of refugees was exhausted and that the United Nations should provide relief to the displaced Afghans on the Afghan side of the border. The Afghan authorities had agreed to facilitate such an effort. Pakistan gave assurances that it had no intention of pushing back those Afghans who were already in Pakistan. UNHCR and any humanitarian agencies were free to provide assistance. However, Pakistan could allow the registration process and consider providing any additional site only if the United Nations agencies could also simultaneously arrange for relief assistance on the Afghan side of the border. This was agreed. *Last evening (5 April), the Secretary-General had a telephone conversation with the Chief Executive,*

during which this understanding was reconfirmed. We hope that steps will be taken to provide relief assistance on the Afghan side of the border.

Despite repeated Pakistani requests for arranging relief assistance on the Afghan side of the border, in accordance with the understanding reached during the Secretary-General's visit, nothing has been done by any of the concerned United Nations agencies. Instead, we are being pressed to allow registration and provide an additional site for the Afghans at Jalozai. In addition, there is now propaganda that Pakistan is not letting United Nations assistance reach the Jalozai Afghans. There is also absurd propaganda that Pakistan barred the visit of the Secretary-General to Jalozai, and even sinister allegations from certain quarters that Pakistan is doing so because the new arrivals are ethnically non-Pushtoons.

Let me emphasize that it is the United Nations agencies which are not acting in accordance with the understanding reached during the Secretary-General's visit. Let me also make it clear that all humanitarian organizations, United Nations or otherwise, foreign or local, are free to provide all humanitarian assistance that they can mobilize for the Jalozai as well as other camps. The Pakistani Refugee Commission and several Pakistani and foreign NGOs are operating in the camp. If any agencies are handicapped because of their bureaucratic procedures, it is their problem. But in accordance with the understanding reached during the Secretary-General's visit, registration of Afghans at Jalozai will depend on the United Nations undertaking relief efforts on the Afghan side of the border so that registration does not generate new flows of refugees. It should be noted that despite verification that the bulk of the Afghans at Shamshatoo camp are economic migrants, no United Nations agency is doing anything for their repatriation, which would be helped by the provision of relief assistance inside Afghanistan. In any event, Pakistan does not intend to forcibly repatriate these economic migrants.

It is absurd to suggest that Pakistan barred the Secretary-General from visiting Jalozai. The fact is that the high level of security required for a dignitary of the Secretary-General's status could not be assured by the authorities and we could afford no risk. This was explained to the Secretary-General. We have nothing to hide at Jalozai. It is open to the media. It is open to all United Nations officials and other humanitarian workers. We had taken Under-Secretary-General Oshima to Jalozai. The Secretary-General was fully briefed by us and the United Nations officials about the desperate condition of those Afghans. In any event, those suffering Afghans do not need another VIP visit, what they need are funds for relief and assistance.

The Afghans need assistance both inside and outside Afghanistan. It is on this score that international agencies and the donor community has disappointed them. For Afghanistan, despite repeated appeals by the Secretary-General for the required $275 million, the total commitments so far made amount to less than $46 million.

Allegation of discrimination on an ethnic basis is perverse. The new arrivals are of mixed ethnic origin as they come mostly from the drought-affected areas. There are a large number of non-Pushtoons among the over two million Afghans who are already living in Pakistan. Nonetheless, Pakistan will be very happy if the United Nations or other organizations can establish relief camps in areas under the control of the Northern Alliance, where people are also suffering from drought. Alternatively, other neighbours of Afghanistan should be persuaded to open their

borders so that the Afghans from the North do not have to trek all the way through the Taliban-controlled territory to reach Pakistan in search of food.

Pakistan rejects all this baseless criticism, which is all the more unfair in view of the fact that Pakistan has been left virtually alone to look after more than two million Afghan refugees. For the past several years, UNHCR contribution for these refugees has amounted to less than one dollar per refugee per year. With this level of contribution, the United Nations or any other organization or country has little justification to criticize Pakistan. The media plays an important role. We request it to ignore ill-conceived criticism and propaganda and focus on mobilizing assistance for the suffering Afghans.

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The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 12 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following:

1. At 1745 hours on 12 April 2001, an Israeli gunboat, No. 814, sailed towards Naqoura and dropped anchor in Lebanese territorial waters at about 50 metres off the coast. An inflatable dinghy with three persons aboard was lowered into the water. It then headed landwards.

2. That same day, at 1820 hours, the inflatable dinghy withdrew and proceeded to drift about 20 metres off the Lebanese coast.

3. At 1920 hours on the same day, the Israeli gunboat and the inflatable dinghy sailed towards the waters of the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

The above-mentioned Israeli aggression, constitutes a flagrant violation not only of Lebanon's territorial waters and territory, but also of its sovereignty and of Security Council resolution 425 (1978). It also poses a threat to security and stability in the region.

The Lebanese Government respectfully draws your attention to the seriousness of this aggression and requests you to take the appropriate measures to put a halt to such violations.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Sélim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 12 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 12 April 2001, addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Aytuğ Plümer, Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex would be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Umit **Pamir**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-33350 (E) 170401

Annex to the letter dated 12 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey herewith a copy of a letter dated 10 April 2001 addressed to you by His Excellency Mr. Rauf R. Denktaş, President of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, concerning the latest provocative statements by the Greek Cypriot leadership in South Cyprus (see enclosure).

I should be grateful if you could have the present letter and its enclosure circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 64, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Aytuğ **Plümer**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

Enclosure

I am writing to inform you about the latest provocative statements emanating from the Greek Cypriot administration and leadership in Southern Cyprus, which reveal their deep-rooted animosity towards the Turkish Cypriot people and the fact that the crux of the Cyprus issue has always been, and continues to be the Greek Cypriot side's attempt to "hellenize" the island under its usurped title "the government of Cyprus". In fact, these statements clearly show that as we have been saying all along, the whole motive behind the Greek Cypriot drive for European Union membership is precisely to achieve union with Greece in that illegal and illegitimate capacity.

First, I would like to refer to the anti-Turkish slogans chanted in a Greek Cypriot military camp during routine training exercises, which appeared in the Greek Cypriot daily, *Haravgi*, dated 22 March 2001, under the apt heading "Chauvinistic Slogans at the Greek Cypriot National Guard". These slogans are yet another demonstration of the fact that the planting of seeds of hatred towards the Turkish Cypriot people in the minds of Greek Cypriot youths, be they military or civilian, is institutionalized on the Greek Cypriot side and is passed from generation to generation:

"Turks, Turks, you will die. You will die in front of the blue and white flag."

"All Turks must be driven out to sea."

The Greek Cypriot National Guard officer conducting these exercises, upon being questioned by an ordinary Greek Cypriot about the wisdom of using such chauvinistic slogans, defended this practice by the shocking remarks "What are you bothered about? We will kill all Turks!"

Similar remarks are common in the Greek Cypriot military as well as civilian life, notably in the teachings of the Greek Orthodox Church and the education system. Archbishop Chrisostomos, as the head of the Greek Orthodox Church of Cyprus, has achieved renown by his prejudicial remarks against the Turks and for frequently calling for a "crusade" to drive out "the national enemy". Greek Cypriot textbooks, particularly at the elementary school level, are replete with racist indoctrination, such as "we either push out all the Turks, or face annihilation". In anti-Turkish demonstrations, which are often held in the South, public feelings are expressed in such abhorrent slogans on banners which read, "The best Turk is a dead Turk!" It is the kind of racist and chauvinistic mentality that led to the Greek Cypriot campaign of ethnic cleansing against the Turkish Cypriots from 1963 to 1974. The mass graves of Turkish Cypriots in places such as Ayvasil, Muratağa, Athlar, Sandallar and elsewhere stand as testimony to the ruthless application of this abhorrent policy which was clearly laid out in the notorious Akritas Plan (circulated as United Nations document A/33/115-S/12722 of 1978) and a painful lesson to us all as we try to forge a more sound and secure future in Cyprus.

Makarios' public exhortation in August 1964 to the effect that "if Turkey comes to save the Turkish Cypriots it will find no Turkish Cypriot to save" is a clear indication of keeping Turkish Cypriots as "hostages to Greek Cypriot policies". We are now told that the European Union membership of "Cyprus" does not depend on the settlement of the Cyprus issue and that the Greek Cypriot side is entitled to be treated as the legitimate government of all!

In the higher ranks of the Greek Cypriot National Guard, "the national objective" of the Greek Cypriot armed forces is described not only as defending the South, but also vowing "to liberate the occupied territories", meaning Northern Cyprus. This was revealed in an interview by the Greek Cypriot daily, *Politis*, published on 17 March 2001, with the Commander of the Greek Cypriot National Guard, Lieutenant-General Evangelos Florakis, who is a Greek national. His words were echoed by the Greek Cypriot leader Mr. Glafkos Clerides himself, who, in his "EOKA Day" message of 1 April stated, "The most serious responsibility we have is to liberate our lands under occupation" (*Politis*, 2 April 2001). Thus, the threat posed by the Greek-Greek Cypriot front, which is manifested in the "joint military doctrine" between the two, continues.

On the political plane, the Chairman of the Greek Cypriot ruling party, Democratic Party Rally (DISI), Mr. Nicos Anastasiades, has recently declared that the accession of the Greek Cypriot administration to the European Union would be tantamount to *Enosis* (union of Cyprus with Greece). During an event organized by DISI, a university students' group held in Athens on 22 March 2001, Mr. Anastasiades stated that "by attaining the union of Cyprus with the European Union, we are at the same time attaining its union with Greece". It is our firm belief that this declaration by the Greek Cypriot leadership is of such significance that it obligates all those involved in facilitating a negotiated settlement on the island to take a fresh look at the prospect of Greek Cypriot accession to the European Union, before a settlement, in the name of Cyprus as a whole. I hardly need to reiterate the implications of such an eventuality for your efforts for a settlement.

Most of all, we believe that the European Union must be made aware of the damage that it has done to the prospects for a settlement on the island by processing the unilateral and unlawful application made by the Greek Cypriot administration for accession to the European Union, and the damage it continues to do by insisting on this totally wrong and misguided policy. Our repeated representations and efforts to make the European Union, both the institution as well as its individual member countries understand and appreciate the possible consequences of this one-sided policy, have unfortunately been ignored. Far from heeding our repeated calls and demarches in this respect, the European Union is now seriously entertaining the offer of the Greek Cypriot administration to contribute to the European Union Headline Goal within the context of the European Union Common Security and Defence Policy. If the Greek Cypriot side also succeeds in this endeavour, it will have completed its policy of engaging the European Union in the military as well as the political aspects of the Cyprus issue, to the detriment of the Turkish Cypriot party and all efforts aimed at reconciliation.

Efforts aimed at reconciliation are not hampered merely by the above developments, but also by the continuing inhuman embargoes and measures of isolation imposed on the people of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. As we have repeatedly brought to your attention and to that of the international community, these embargoes range from prohibitions put on the simplest forms of transaction by the Turkish Cypriot people with the outside world, and even with the Greek Cypriots, to the most fundamental issues such as representation in international forums. These inhuman and totally unjustified measures, many of which date back to 1963 and therefore have a 38-year-old history, have taken their toll not only on the economic, social, cultural and political life of the Turkish Cypriot people, but also on the relationship between the two peoples, which has naturally deteriorated to

the point of a total lack of trust and confidence between the two. I hardly need to stress the damage that this inimical Greek Cypriot policy has dealt to the prospects for a settlement through your mission of good offices.

So far, the only response we have received to our appeals to the international community to help remove these embargoes has been a reference to the existence of these measures in a few of your relevant reports. While this is a welcome development, it has unfortunately not been sufficient to remove or even relax these all out restrictions on our people. In fact, in the most recent development on the issue of the embargoes, we have noted with disappointment that even the brief reference to the embargoes in your latest report to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights (E/CN.4/2001/31 of 20 February 2001) has been put in quotation marks upon the protestations of the Greek Cypriot administration, which objected to the original form of the report referring to the issue without using quotation marks. Even this seemingly small change indicates, without doubt, the utter denial of the Greek Cypriot party of the existence of these embargoes, and the inability or unwillingness of the international community to cope with these Greek Cypriot objections.

We appeal to you to take the foregoing ominous developments into serious consideration in your current evaluations of the Cyprus issue and to do what you deem is necessary. These developments confirm, once gain, that any future effort must, as a priority, address the fundamental issue of the chronic inequality of status between the two parties, in order for negotiations on the basis of true equality to start. This is not a precondition, but a dictate of reason, justice and fairness. Otherwise, the real precondition in the way of a negotiated settlement, that is the so-called "government" status of the Greek Cypriot party, will continue to dominate and pre-empt all efforts aimed at reconciliation.

(*Signed*) Rauf R. **Denktaş**
President

United Nations A/55/900–S/2001/362

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General Assembly
Fifty-fifth session
Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 16 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour upon instructions from the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to convey herewith the statement of the Government on the aggression launched by the Israeli forces against one of our posts in Lebanese territories on the morning of 16 April 2001 (see annex).

It would be greatly appreciated if this statement were circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mikhail **Wehbe**

01-33411 (E) 160401

Annex to the letter dated 16 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic]

Statement by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic concerning the Israeli attack on a Syrian position in Lebanon (Damascus, 16 April 2001)

At 0020 hours on 16 April 2001 Israeli formations violated Lebanese airspace and bombed one of our positions in Lebanese territory. Our air defences engaged the attacking aircraft and drove them off. A Syrian radar installation was damaged in the bombing, and one of our personnel was killed and four were wounded.

Syria considers this wanton aggression against its forces, as well as the savage and racist crimes being committed by Israel against the Palestinian people in the occupied Palestinian territories, to be an expression of the hostile attitude maintained by the Government of Israel under Sharon's leadership. It regards this as a serious escalation that may undermine peace and stability in the region.

Syria regards this aggression as an affront to the will of the Arab nation as conveyed in the Communiqué of the Amman Summit, in which the Arab leaders affirm their full solidarity with Syria and Lebanon and their rejection of Israel's aggression and its threats against the two countries. It holds Israel responsible for this dangerous escalation, and it reserves its right to legitimate self-defence against any aggression.

The Syrian Arab Republic alerts the international community to the gravity of this attack, and it calls upon the United Nations to adopt a firm stance against such dangerous provocations and to take action to end Israel's control of the occupied Arab territories in implementation of the resolutions that embody international legitimacy.

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Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 16 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Israel to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I wish to draw your attention to the two latest acts of Palestinian terrorism in the cities of Kfar Saba and Sderot.

This evening, a number of mortar shells were launched at the southern Israeli city of Sderot. Though there were no reported casualties, this attack, which targeted a city in the heart of Israel with mortar fire, represents a serious escalation of the conflict.

The other attack occurred this past Saturday evening, 14 April 2001, when two pipe bombs exploded approximately one hour apart, injuring 70-year-old Pinchas Levy with shrapnel and doing damage to several parked cars. Kfar Saba was the scene of another bombing on 28 March 2001 in which two Israeli teenagers were killed.

These attacks come amidst an escalating Palestinian terrorist campaign against Israeli civilians which in recent weeks has increasingly been waged via mortar attacks against Israeli communities. In one such attack, on 3 April 2001, Palestinians fired several mortar shells at the community of Atzmona, seriously injuring a 15-month-old baby boy, Ariel Yered, and lightly injuring his mother Leah. The child was evacuated to Beersheba's Soroka Hospital, where he underwent surgery for multiple shrapnel wounds to his head and spine.

The ongoing campaign of Palestinian terrorism has been detailed in a series of letters dated 28 March 2001 (A/55/863-S/2001/291), 27 March 2001 (A/55/860-S/2001/280), 26 March 2001 (A/55/858-S/2001/278), 19 March 2001 (A/55/842-S/2001/244), 5 March 2001 (A/55/821-S/2001/193), 2 March 2001 (A/55/819-S/2001/187), 14 February 2001 (A/55/787-S/2001/137), 13 February 2001 (A/55/781-S/2001/132), 2 February 2001 (A/55/762-S/2001/103), 25 January 2001 (A/55/748-S/2001/81), 23 January 2001 (A/55/742-S/2001/71), 28 December 2000 (A/55/719-S/2000/1252), 22 November 2000 (A/55/641-S/2000/1114), 20 November 2000 (A/55/634-S/2000/1108) and 2 November 2000 (A/55/540-S/2000/1065). Seventy-three Israelis have been killed in terrorist attacks since the outbreak of hostilities in late September 2000.

01-33447 (E) 160401

Despite the gruesome nature of these attacks, and the increasing number of children who have been killed or injured in recent weeks, the Palestinians have continually stated their intention to persist in their terrorist campaign. Sheikh Ahmed Yassin, spiritual leader of the Hamas terrorist organization, stated in an Internet conversation on the web site Islam Online on 1 April 2001 that Hamas will act to inflict the maximum damage on Israeli soldiers and civilians and that the organization's efforts have recently been facilitated by the Palestinian Authority which "shuts its eyes and does not pursue the fighters". Other statements by Hamas members have indicated that the organization has numerous suicide bombers standing at the ready to carry out deadly attacks on Israelis.

The Government of Israel holds the Palestinian Authority responsible for the recent bombing in Kfar Saba and the mortar attack on Sderot in the light of its release of convicted terrorist prisoners from Palestinian prisons and its failure to act resolutely to combat terrorist elements operating from within the territory under its control. The stance of the Palestinian leadership blatantly contravenes Chairman Arafat's explicit commitment of 9 September 1993 to renounce the use of violence and to act to control those who perpetrate it.

Israel again calls on Chairman Arafat to abide by his commitments, to take concerted action against terrorist elements, and to work to ensure that such atrocities do not recur in the future.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 164, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Yehuda **Lancry**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/55/902–S/2001/371

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Agenda item 40
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

Letter dated 17 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to enclose herewith a letter addressed to you by Mahmoud Hamoud, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Lebanon, on the subject of the recent aggressions launched by Israel on Monday, 16 April 2001 (see annex).

I ask that you kindly arrange to have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 40, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Selim **Tadmoury**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-33535 (E) 170401 170401

This attack is a manifest attempt to divert attention from the infamous Israeli practices and assaults to which the Palestinian people in the territories of the Palestinian Authority is being subjected.

Lebanon warns against the ongoing series of Israeli threats and assaults against it. It urges the Secretariat of the United Nations to take urgent measures to halt and prevent any recurrence of Israeli aggression against Lebanon's territory and to require Israel to respect its sovereignty and territorial integrity and to implement the resolutions that embody international legitimacy.

Lebanon would like on this occasion to reaffirm its continuing commitment to a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, in accordance with the Madrid terms of reference, the principle of land for peace and the resolutions that embody international legitimacy, as well as its firmly-held belief that it is such a peace that will ensure a climate of security and stability in the region.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mahmoud **Hamoud**
Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Nations A/55/903–S/2001/375

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Security Council

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General Assembly
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Agenda items 40 and 41

Security Council
Fifty-sixth year

The situation in the Middle East

Question of Palestine

Letter dated 18 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the press communiqué issued by an official source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates stating the position of the Government of the United Arab Emirates condemning the aggression committed by the Israeli forces against Lebanese territory on 16 April 2001 and their reoccupation of areas in the Gaza Strip.

I should be grateful if you would have this communiqué circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 40 and 41, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mohammad J. **Samhan**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-33767 (E) 180401 180401

Annex to the letter dated 18 April 2001 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Communiqué issued by an official source in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates

The United Arab Emirates condemns the attacks on Lebanese territory carried out by aircraft of the Israeli forces on 16 April 2001, which resulted in the destruction of a Syrian radar installation and the death or wounding of at least five soldiers. The United Arab Emirates considers this Israeli attack to be a flagrant violation of international law and a threat to security and stability in the Middle East and reaffirms its full solidarity with Syria and Lebanon in confronting the ongoing Israeli violations of the sovereignty of Lebanese territory.

We also call upon the international community to endeavour to halt these Israeli attacks and to implement resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973) and 425 (1978) of the United Nations Security Council, which stipulate full Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories occupied since 1967, including the Syrian Arab Golan and Lebanese territory.

The United Arab Emirates also vehemently condemns the continuing Israeli aerial and land attacks on the Gaza Strip and Palestinian towns and villages elsewhere as systematic and deliberate aggression of daily increasing ferocity against the Palestinian people struggling for the restoration of its legitimate rights, amid the silence of the international community, which stands by and does not differentiate between the offending party and the victim. The Israeli occupation forces' reoccupation of areas in the Gaza Strip and their tripartite division of those areas reveal the true nature of Ariel Sharon's extremist Government and its wish to expand, to consolidate the occupation and to demolish the entire peace process.

We in the United Arab Emirates reaffirm our full solidarity with the Palestinian people in its endeavour to attain its national rights, including the establishment of its independent State on the soil of its homeland, Palestine, with Jerusalem as its capital. We also call upon the international community to intervene immediately to provide protection to this people, which has been exposed to slaughter, destruction and ferocious aggression for more than seven months at the hands of the Israeli occupation forces.